

Bootlin training course evaluation

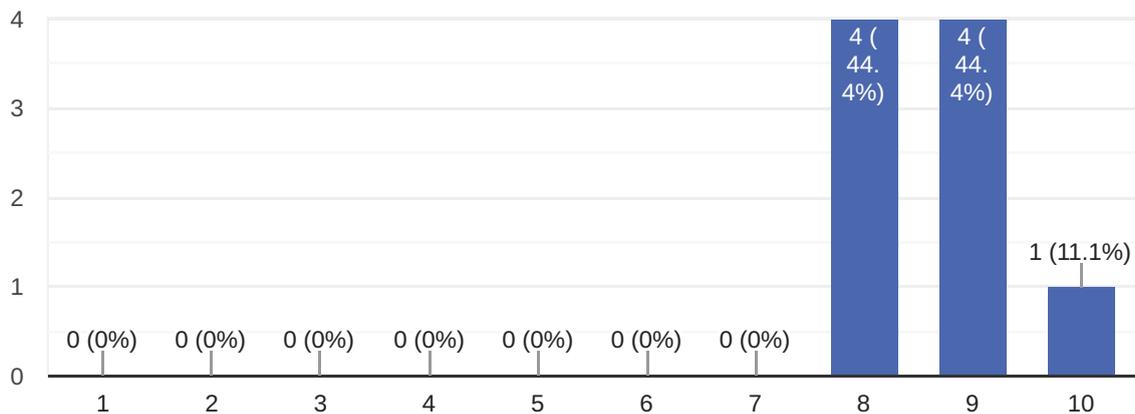
9 responses

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Overall rating of the course

 Copy

9 responses



Comments and suggestions

4 responses

Content great. Possibly could have been spread over longer period. Would be good if recording was made available for watching slower time.

Agenda, content material selection and delivery was precise to the extent required for coverage

There was a lot of great information in this course. I wish I had taken this training several years ago, but it is certainly full of many great pieces of information.

There was a lot of information that I need to go back through the slides to digest again and I need to get some of the lab equipment so I can walk through them as well. Obviously there's a little polish that has to happen when going through an overhaul like this.

The content delivery tools were very simple and intuitive.

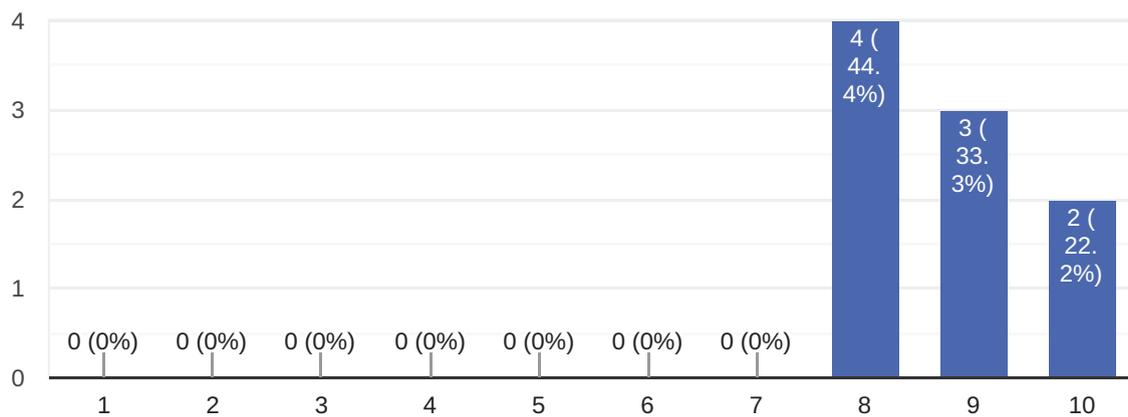
Very informative course. The information structure is good and chronological, it covered a large amount of topics. Seems like a good fit for people who know a bit about Linux, but want to get more in-depth.



How useful were the lectures?



9 responses



Comments and suggestions

5 responses

Some background in Bootlin and Linux history could be cut out.

Michael covered a lot of theory and useful pointers we can apply in our projects . 70% topics though not applicable immediately but very essential to complete the basic development skills

The lectures are useful, full of information, covering many many topics. Luckily, I have read the slides before the training. And this increased my gains from the course.

Michael is very engaging and interested in these topics. He does a wonderful job ensuring that he's able to answer peoples questions and makes the open source community as a whole feel like a welcoming place.

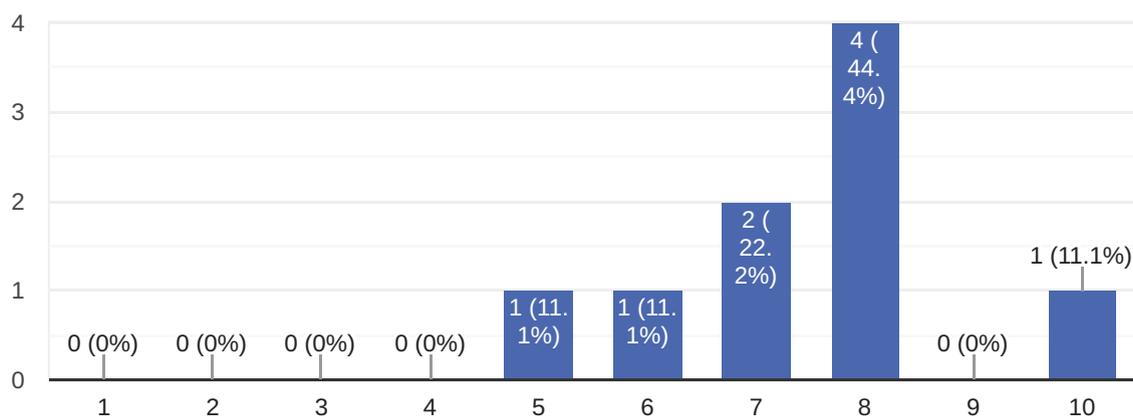
Very informative and useful for real-life scenarios. For each subject, it always covered many options (e.g. multiple bootloaders, multiple build tools, etc.)



How useful were the practical demos?



9 responses



Comments and suggestions

6 responses

Would be better to work through together. A disadvantage of doing course online.

The demos were a bit difficult for me to follow. Trying to follow the lab instructions and terminal output wasn't as effective in illustrating/reinforcing the topics covered as I hoped it would be. I also wasn't able to source all the hardware used to follow along. I would have liked to purchase a kit from Bootlin with all the hardware used so I could have watched the demo during the class times and worked the labs myself before the next class.

Only wished for a common live lab session instead of trainer live lab session

Actually, this is the best part of the course. I liked the idea that the labs are prepared for different platforms including a simulation platform (QEMU).

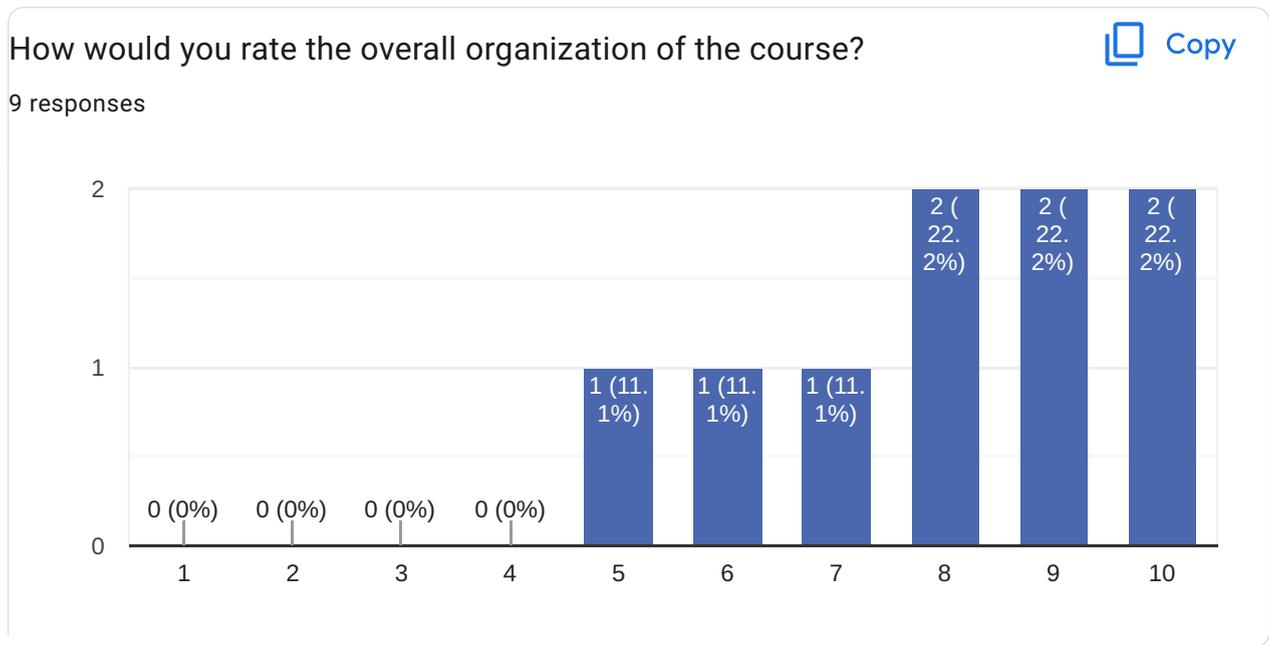
Sometimes, I felt like we needed more effort to be put in the context before jumping into the lab. I would recommend for coming audience to read the labs before they get executed.

Also, Although I have high speed internet, during the online training the shared screen does not stream fast enough. Sometimes I see on the shell the result, but not the executed command (when the result is big that it fills in the screen). It would be a good idea if the instructor can provide the logs of his shell after every session. According to the constructor, this can be done using "tio terminal".

I put this at 5 as I was not able to procure the necessary equipment to execute the labs prior to the course. I intend to get our company to purchase these and walk through the labs at a later date. I really appreciate Michael vocalizing on multiple occasions that he is willing to answer questions at a later time surrounding labs.

This question can be interpreted in two ways in my opinion. The practical LABS were very good, but the practical DEMOS (where the teacher executes the labs) were less good. To me, it could be a bit boring to watch the teacher do it, compared to doing it yourself.





Comments and suggestions

3 responses

Fantastic

There was a little too much information during this course. 4 hrs/day for 8 days is an ambitious course. I loved how we went from the bottom up in creating a toolchain, bootloader, kernel, & rootfs before eventually moving to buildroot.

The brief walkthrough of the graphics subsystem didn't really seem to fit the rest of the course, but that could be due to the types of work I perform on embedded devices. There may be some other things that may not quite fit in with the flow.

From all aspects of the course, I find the organization the weakest part. I have several points here.

- There is too much "talking" in my opinion. I believe something similar to the following would be much better: 2 hours of new information, then 2 hours of performing labs where the instructor guides the group. Let the labs contain all information that would otherwise have been in the slides. Everybody must perform the labs themselves (it is a bit boring to simply watch someone else punching in some commands). The teacher should then help with explaining extra things during the labs and help the students with trouble shooting. I believe no one is able to absorb 3 or 4 hours of lectures for 8 days. However, with lectures, you get the experience yourself and you remember information much better.

- The slides are way too full. This should be split up. The slides we used should be the "reference slides" for AFTER the course. When the teacher himself is presenting, I believe the slides should contain much less information. Right now, I feel like it is basically a 3 or 4 hour session of reading what is already written on the slides. I believe listening to the teacher's story would be much more interesting than reading the slides. He certainly has the knowledge and presenting skills for that. I believe that the best presentations consist of one diagram and six bullet points for each slide. The rest of the information, the teacher will be able to tell by himself. Michael certainly has the knowledge for that! This makes it much more engaging to listen to. Then, when the course is over, we can read the "complete" slides (the ones you present right now) for later reference.

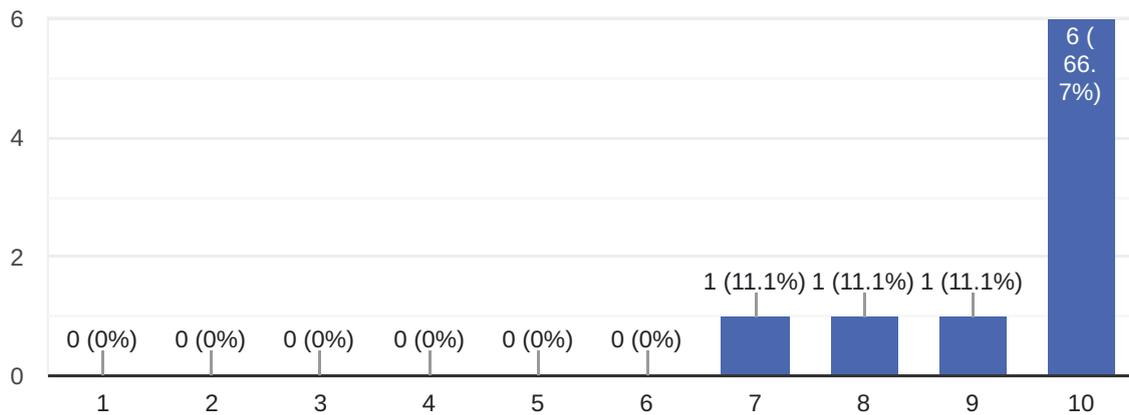
Regardless, I believe this course is very good and contains so much useful information. I learned a great deal of new technologies. Thank you!



How would you rate the trainer?



9 responses



Comments and suggestions

5 responses

Micheal was great. It was obvious that he has a mastery of understanding but I never felt like he was talking over my head. Everything was explained in a concise and easy to understand way. I appreciated that he was able to expand on topics or tools he was more familiar with and readily acknowledge the topics or tools he was less familiar with and point out additional resources. I was also impressed with the notes he took throughout the course to improve flow, clarity, and accuracy of the material.

Very humble, reciprocative, covers all related queries without hesitation

The instructor is competent and listens to all of our questions. I am usually the annoying guy who asks many questions that could be sometimes trivial or out of context. However, Michael Opdenacker not only took all my questions seriously but acknowledged them in most of the cases.

Besides, when there is a question that he is not sure about, he will come back next day with a tested answer.

Thanks Michael

Michael is very engaging. You can tell from the way he runs the training that he's passionate about the topics which he's covering. Michael is knowledgeable about the subjects he's covering and he is very easy to understand.

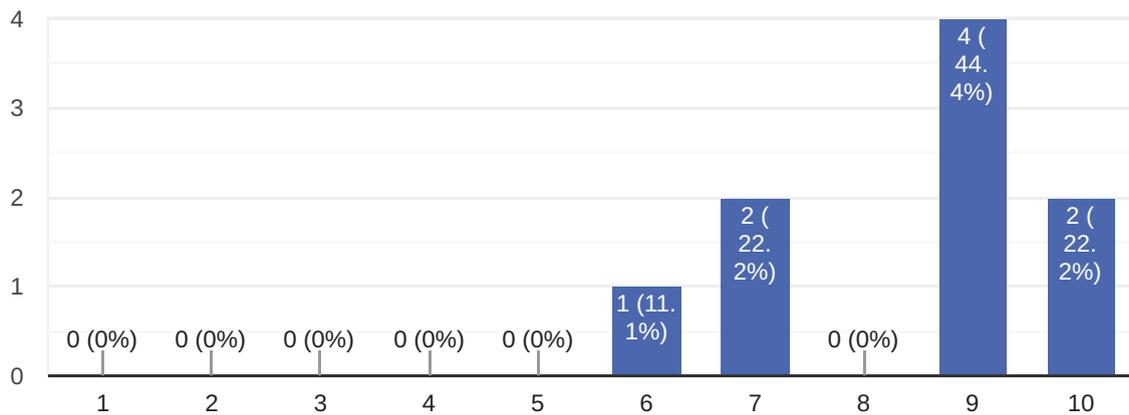
I believe Michael is a great teacher. Very friendly and very skilled. He really gets the point across and always has/finds answers to questions.



How did the course meet your learning objectives?



9 responses



Comments and suggestions

4 responses

I'm a new developer and this course clarified many topics I've struggled with understanding and gave me a great overview of how different components relate and interact with each other. The amount of resources provided to further my knowledge and development is also very helpful.

The course was a great opportunity for me to catch the big image of an embedded Linux system. The course contents actually exceeded my expectations in many aspects.

Still, as I am mainly working on time and safety critical systems, I was looking for the PREEMPT_RT section that was in the old training. Unfortunately, it is removed in the ng course.

The reason I selected a 6 on this is due to me not having the materials required to perform the labs. I think as I go through the slides and perform the labs at a later date this value will go up.

I learn a great new deal of information about Linux for Embedded Systems, precisely what I was looking for.



What part(s) of the course did you like most?

6 responses

I liked that we touched a little bit of everything

The fact you walk through full process of building embedded Linux system.

Devices trees and kernel modules was a very helpful section. Those topics have been especially frustrating in my self-studies. The section on copyright was also very interesting and useful.

Labs

I really enjoyed that we created our own toolchain. That is super cool and I've never created my own. I also appreciated the walkthrough of debugging tools available and how to use them.

The practical labs are very interesting. You learn a lot from it!

What part(s) of the course did you like least?

4 responses

The labs could be more detailed

I had a difficult time understanding and keeping interest in the block filesystems section. This is a topic I will need to review more thoroughly while working through the labs.

I felt like we struggled to get through all the material and may not have spent enough time to really get through all of the materials. To me it felt that the graphics subsystem discussion could've been removed as it feels like there's

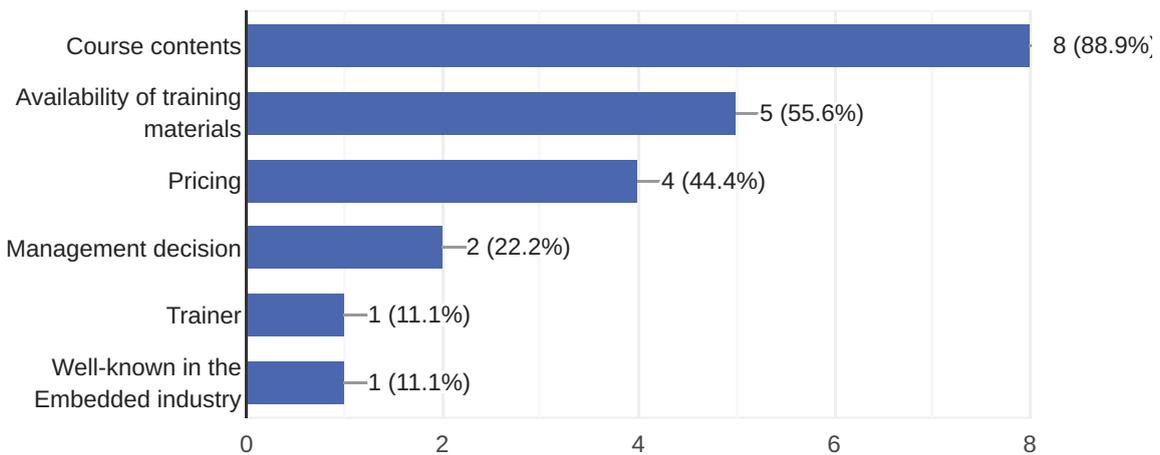
My previous point about the course structure.



What reasons prompted you to choose a Bootlin course?



9 responses



Comments

3 responses

This course has far exceeded my expectations. I am extremely impressed with Micheal's and Bootlin's commitment to improving the quality of the training, presentations, and materials as well as the post-course support to work through labs and still have access to matrix chat.

All in all it was an excellent course and I wish I would've taken it several years ago.

Thanks a lot for the training!

Further training needs?

4 responses

Yocto, Linux graphics/ video stack (We make video systems)

Linux kernel and device drivers

I am going to attempt to sign up for the kernel training class that bootlin provides sometime in the future.

None, I feel like this was an excellent coverage of embedded linux "for beginners". Again, thanks a lot.

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